GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4489
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2001
MEDICINAL PLANTS
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the areas in all States and Union Territories where medicinal plants are grown;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State and Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government have made any funds provision for the concerned State and Union Territory for growing medicinal plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a),(b),(c),(d) and (e) : A Centrally sponsored scheme of Non-timber Forest Produce(NTFP) including medicinal plants is being implemented by National Afforestation & Eco-Development Board (Ministry of Environment & Forests) in different states of the country. The scheme is confined mainly to degraded forest areas. It provides 100% financial assistance to the State Governments for conservation, development and increasing production of non-timber forest produce including medicinal plants. Up to 1999-2000, projects were not sanctioned separately for growing medicinal plants. Hence, no separate funds were earmarked and released for medicinal plants alone. The sanctioned grants for NTFP including medicinal plants during 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000 were Rs.9.65 crores, Rs.13.44 crores and Rs. 17.55 crores, respectively. During 2000-2001, medicinal plants have been declared as one of the thrust areas by the Ministry of Environment & Forests and projects solely for medicinal plants plantations are being santioned separately under the existing NTFP scheme. As on date, 17 projects are being implemented for medicinal plants plantation and funds provision during the current financial year in different states is: Andhra Pradesh (Rs.27.65 lakhs); Maharashtra (Rs.63.65 lakhs); Himachal Pradesh (Rs.4.14 lakhs); Madhya Pradesh (Rs.35.00 lakhs); Rajasthan (Rs.48.90 lakhs); Kerala (Rs.19.00 lakhs); Sikkim (Rs.16.80 lakhs); Goa (Rs.10.80 lakhs); Gujarat (Rs.24.00 lakhs); Karnataka (Rs.54.82 lakhs); Bihar (Rs. 46.30 lakhs); Tripura (Rs. 3.25 lakhs); Manipur (Rs.15.04 lakhs); Mizoram (Rs.12.65 lakhs); Meghalaya (Rs.14.20 lakhs); Tamil Nadu (Rs.23.50 lakhs) and Assam (Rs.23.95 lakhs).

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (Ministry of Agriculture) has also been implementing a Central Scheme for development of medicinal plants through various agencies. During Ninth Plan, an outlay of Rs.14.50 crores has been allocated to this programme which includes production and distribution of planting material, establishment of nurseries and herbal gardens, Regional Analytical Labs, demonstration plots, area expansion and training of farmers.